

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 164114
ORIGIN NODS-00

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66011
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO WHITE HOUSE

S E C R E T STATE 164114

NODIS
FOR DR BRZEZINSKI

FOLLOWING REPEAT BONN 11649 ACTION SECSTATE JULY 14.

QUOTE S E C R E T BONN 11649

NODIS

DEPARTMENT REPEAT TO EMBASSY MOSCOW

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT UR
SUBJECT: BREZHNEV'S HEALTH

REFS: (A) STATE 159587; (B) MOSCOW 9621;
(C) USNATO 6517

1. IN THE ABSENCE OF STATE SECRETARY VAN WELL AND
POLITICAL DIRECTOR BLECH, WE BRIEFED ACTING
POLITICAL DIRECTOR MEYER-LANDRUT ON REFTEL (B). MEYER-
LANDRUT SAID AMBASSADOR TOON'S OBSERVATIONS AND
ASSESSMENTS CONCERNING BREZHNEV'S HEALTH COINCIDED
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ALMOST EXACTLY WITH THOSE OF THE GERMANS, BASED ON THE
RECENT GENSCHEER MEETING WITH BREZHNEV.

2. WE COMMENTED THAT THE ASSESSMENT CIRCULATED IN NATO
BY THE FRG DELEGATION, AS SUMMARIZED BY USNATO (REF C),
HAD IMPLIED A MORE DRASTIC CHANGE IN BREZHNEV'S
CONDITION THAN THAT IN REF (B). MEYER-LANDRUT

RESPONDED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHICH PAPER OR TELEGRAM
THE FRG DELEGATION HAD CIRCULATED BUT COMMENTED THAT
IT WAS INACCURATE IF IT IMPLIED AGREEMENT WITH ANYTHING
LIKE THE PRESS REPORTS FOLLOWING BREZHNEV'S VISIT TO
PARIS. THE GERMAN IMPRESSION, HE CONTINUED, IS THAT
BREZHNEV HAS AGED CONSIDERABLY IN THE LAST TWO YEARS
BUT IS STILL VERY MUCH IN CONTROL OF HIS FACULTIES. CASH
UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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